BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 97-326-C - ORDER NO. 97-998

NOVEMBER 20, 1997

IN RE: Request of GTE South, Inc. to Expand

the Local Calling Scope of Lamar.

ORDER

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for consideration of a request for Extended Area Service (EAS) between the communities of Sumter, Bishopville, and Lamar. After study, we conclude that this is appropriate, and that GTE South, Inc. should implement toll free calling between these communities.

We note that this action, combined with the recent Commission decision in Docket No. 97-125-C, resolves all earnings issues related to GTE South, Inc. through the twelve month period ending June 30, 1997.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

ATTEST:

(SEAL)